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## Improving Trial Court Facilities: Fiscal Year 2009–2010 Funding Requests

### *Lake—New Lakeport Courthouse*

Imperial—New El Centro Family Courthouse  
Monterey—New South Monterey County Courthouse  
Riverside—New Indio Juvenile and Family Courthouse  
Sacramento—New Sacramento Criminal Courthouse  
Shasta—New Redding Courthouse  
Sonoma—New Santa Rosa Criminal Courthouse  
Sutter—New Yuba City Courthouse

In April 2008, the Judicial Council updated its Trial Court Capital-Outlay Plan that includes 152 new-construction, major renovation, and expansion projects estimated to cost \$9.3 billion (January 2008 dollars). The Initial funding request for these eight referenced projects was \$88.2 million for the 2009–2010 Fiscal Year, which would be funded by the Immediate and Critical Needs Account of the State Court Facilities Fund in proposed court revenue bond legislation Senate Bill 1407 (Perata). Their total project costs are estimated to be \$1.4 billion. If approved, these projects mark important progress toward implementing needed projects for trial courts across California.

### New Lakeport Courthouse

A new Lakeport Courthouse is proposed by the AOC for initial funding of \$2.6 million for FY 2009–2010. The new facility will house four courtrooms. The estimated total cost for this courthouse of approximately 50,158 gross square feet is \$70.84 million (escalated to construction mid-point in Spring 2014). This project is ranked in the Immediate Need Project Priority Group of the Trial Court Capital-Outlay Plan and is one of the highest priority capital-outlay projects for the judicial branch.

### Lack of Security, Severe Overcrowding, Poor Physical Conditions, and Reduced Access to Court Services

The Superior Court of California, County of Lake serves the residents of Lake County in the main business district of Lakeport. The court occupies the 4th floor of the existing Lakeport Courthouse, which is severely overcrowded, poorly serves the growing needs of the superior court, and lacks basic security features, causing unnecessary risk to the staff and public who use this building. This facility has significant security problems, severe accessibility deficiencies, is very overcrowded, and has many physical problems, and prevents the court from providing safe and efficient court services to the public.



Jury Assembly Held in Crowded Public Hallways

### Local Government and Organizations Collaborate on Project

The Lake County Board of Supervisors and the City of Lakeport both support the need to build a new courthouse in Lakeport. The AOC will work collaboratively with the County of Lake to select a site for the new facility and to develop a project that meets the goals of the local community.

### Long-term Funding Needs

The California legislature is considering authorizing a revenue bond to pay for the state's most urgently needed court projects. This legislation proposes increasing criminal penalties and other filing fees to be contributed to the State Court Facilities Construction Fund for the sole purpose of funding court construction projects.

### More Information

A project feasibility report for the New Lakeport Courthouse, dated July 1, 2008, was prepared by AOC staff. This report documents the poor functional and physical conditions of the existing Lakeport court facility in Lake County, explores options for how best to meet the needs of the court and of the public, and estimates the cost to construct a new facility. This document can be downloaded from the following Web site:

[www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/documents/pfr-lakeport.pdf](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/documents/pfr-lakeport.pdf)

For further information, please email the AOC-Office of Court Construction and Management at [OCCM@jud.ca.gov](mailto:OCCM@jud.ca.gov).